

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant : | Robert A. Sanderson, et al. | Art Unit : | 3747 |
| Serial No. : | 09/696,139 | Examiner : | Kamen |
| Filed : | October 25, 2000 | Confirmation No.: | 2871 |
| Title : | PISTON ENGINE ASSEMBLY | Notice of Allowance Date: | July 31, 2003 |

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

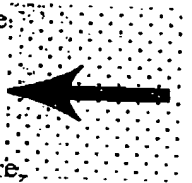
RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed July 31, 2003, enclosed are a completed issue fee transmittal form PTOL-85b, transmittal of 31 sheets of formal drawings, and a check for \$1360 for the required fee, including patent copies.

The applicant notes that none of the office action summaries acknowledged the claim for domestic priority, and requests such acknowledgement. The applicant further requests that a copy of the official filing receipt be forwarded, as the document is missing from applicant's file.

Upon reviewing the file in preparation for paying the issue fee, the applicant's representative noticed that the Examiner Interview Summaries did not indicate that it was not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview. Therefore, for interest of completeness, applicant submits the following.

At the interview of November 8, 2001, applicant demonstrated a plastic model of a representative mechanism, discussed claims 45, 69-72, and 75, the Kitaguchi and Lind references, and amending the claims to recite a universal joint. At the interview of January 15, 2003, claims 45, 72, 75 and 89, and the Lind, Meylaers, Kitaguchi, and Almen references were discussed. The applicant explained that the Meylaers reference does not show double-ended members. Applicant also argued that the Meylaers mechanism would not work with the joint of the Lind reference or the Almen reference, and that the Kitaguchi reference teaches away from the claimed two-pin universal joint configurations. The Examiner indicated that the final office action would be withdrawn. At the interview of March 5, 2003, the relevancy of the Dhenain reference to all the claims was discussed. In particular, the applicant argued that the Dhenain reference does not account for figure 8 motion, and that the Kitaguchi reference teaches away from combining the Lind reference with the Dhenain reference. The possibility of adding figure 8 motion to the claims was also discussed.



Applicant : Robert A. Sanderson, et al.
Serial No. : 09/696,139
Filed : October 25, 2000
Page : 2 of 2

Attorney's Docket No.: 09850-005005

Please apply any additional charges or credits to our Deposit Account No. 00-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 30, 2003

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